

We claim:

Sub A' 7

1. A client-side computer-implemented method comprising:
 - fetching content for a current web page, the content including one or more links, each link pointing to a web page;
 - 5 fetching information regarding the web page to which each link points, wherein the information is stored separately from the current web page;
 - displaying the content for the current web page; and,
 - displaying an informational region, in response to a cursor hovering over a particular link of the one or more links, the region including the information previously fetched
 - 10 regarding the web page to which the link points.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein displaying the informational region comprises displaying the informational region by the link.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the method is such that a user is able to retrieve the information regarding the web page without selecting the link and committing to
- 15 downloading the web page.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the informational region comprises a text box apparently floating near the link.

Sub A 7

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the information regarding the web page includes at least one of: keywords of the web page; paragraph headings of the web page; links on the web page to other web pages.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the information regarding the web page includes at least information based on a user's relationship to the web page.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the information based on the user's relationship to the web page includes the user's prior web browsing history for the web page.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the information regarding the web page includes at least information based on a user relative to the web page.
- 10 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the information based on the user relative to the web page includes whether the user is likely to be interested in browsing the web page.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the information regarding the web page includes at least information regarding whether the link is broken.
11. The method of claim 1, further comprising disabling the link in response to determining that the web page includes content that a user is not allowed to view.
- 15 12. The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying the link in one of a number of colors based on a predetermined criteria.

Sub A' 7

13. A machine-readable medium having instructions stored thereon for execution by a client processor to perform a method comprising:

fetching content for a current web page, the content including one or more links, each link pointing to a web page;

5 fetching information regarding the web page to which each link points, wherein the information is stored separately from the current web page;

displaying the content for the current web page; and,

displaying an informational region, in response to a cursor hovering over a particular link of the one or more links, the region including the information previously fetched

10 regarding the web page to which the link points.

14. The medium of claim 13, wherein displaying the informational region comprises displaying the informational region by the particular link.

15. The medium of claim 13, wherein fetching the information regarding the web page to which each link points comprises retrieving the information from a server on which the

15 information is stored.

16. The medium of claim 13, wherein fetching the information regarding the web page to which each link points comprises retrieving the information from a local cache in which the information is stored.

Sub A' 7

17. The medium of claim 13, wherein fetching the information regarding the web page to which each link points comprises retrieving the information from a proxy cache in which the information is stored.

18. The medium of claim 13, wherein fetching the information regarding the web page to which each link points comprises:

5 sending a request to an entity for the information; and,

returning the information by the entity in response to the entity determining that the information exists.

10 19. The medium of claim 18, wherein fetching the information regarding the web page to which each link points further comprises, otherwise,

generating by the entity of the information for the web page; and,

returning the information by the entity.

20. The medium of claim 18, wherein the entity comprises at least one of: a proxy cache, a local cache, and a server.

15 21. The medium of claim 13, wherein the information for the web page to which each link points comprises at least one of: automatically generated content and manually generated content.

22. A computerized system comprising:

at least one first entity storing web pages;

Sub A' 7

at least one second entity separate from the at least one first entity storing information regarding the web pages; and,

at least one client, each client able to browse web pages such that fetching of a web page from the at least one first entity causes the fetching of information about other web

5 pages from the at least one second entity and such that positioning of a cursor over a link of a current web page causes display of an informational region including information regarding a web page to which the link points as stored on the at least one second entity.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein the informational region is displayed by the link.

10 24. The system of claim 22, wherein the second entity comprises at least one of: a proxy cache, a local cache, and a server.

25. A computerized system comprising:

at least one first entity capable of storing web pages;

at least one second entity capable of providing summaries of the web pages;

15 at least one third entity capable of providing for a given web page stored by the first entity, a list of all links on the web page and for each of the links, the corresponding summary, provided by the second entity; and,

at least one client, each able to browse web pages such that fetching of a web page from the at least one first entity causes fetching information provided by the third entity

20 and such that positioning of a cursor over a link of a current web page causes display of

Sub A' 7

an informational region including information regarding a web page to which the link points.